

Andrew Jackson High

Volunteers

Our demographics

School principal: Alex Dabney

Years at school: 7 **Years in district:** 13

In education: 19

Grades served: 9 – 12

Enrollment: 608

Economic status: 42% free & reduced lunch

Diversity: 77.5% White, 21.5% African-American, 0.6% Hispanic, 0.3% Other

Number of teachers: 40

Classified: 9

Administrators: 3

Counselors: 2

Media specialists: 1

Other: Full-time Resource Officer

Teachers with advanced degrees: 48.7%

Teacher attendance: 96.6%

Student attendance: 98.4%

Our mission

The mission of Andrew Jackson High School is to develop competent, responsible, productive life-long learners by providing resources and experiences in a safe and secure environment.

Our facilities

Date main building was built: 1969

Date of renovations: 2011

Square feet: 126,371

Number of computers: 325

Number of classrooms: 48

Specialty areas: 3 computer labs for business and computer applications and a computer lab for drafting; a model lab, an iPad lab, a Dell notebook lab in auto mechanics; a computer lab for virtual schooling and USCL Distance Education classes; a Vocational building that includes a large auto mechanics shop, a drafting room, an agriculture shop and a weight room for athletics. The school was renovated in 2011 to include new wiring, new lighting, new windows and new heating and air conditioning. The 800-seat auditorium was also renovated.

Our school programs

- **Arts Focus School** – AJHS is the arts focus high school for the district. Our school offers an expanded arts curriculum including focus programs in visual arts, dance, drama, vocal and instrumental music and creative writing. In addition, school theatrical productions are held throughout year, also held are a visual art show, and fall and spring band concerts, choral performances and dance productions. Visiting artists provide many opportunities for students throughout the school year.

Our co-curriculum, clubs, athletics

- **Student Council**
- **Beta Club**

- **National Honor Society**
- **Interact Club**
- **Thespian Society**
- **Future Farmers of America**
- **Spanish Club**
- **Poetry Club**
- **Teacher Cadets**
- **Service Learning**
- **Art Honor Society**
- **National Technical Honor Society**
- **First Priority**
- **All sports** (except tennis)

Football, basketball, softball, baseball and soccer teams often participate in playoffs. Girl's softball won the 2006 and 2007 state championships. Soccer teams are competitive regardless of the classification of the opponent school. We have students who compete in swimming with Lancaster High. We also field a very competitive boys and girls track program.

Our parents/parent support programs

- **SIC** – Active school improvement council which meets monthly
- **Athletic booster club** – Raises a minimum \$20,000 a year
- **Band booster club** – Includes all band parents
- **Community Support** – Strong support from civic, business, & faith communities

Our school strengths

- A diverse student body that respects the strengths and talents of individuals and works to improve the school and community.
- Strong committed staff that works double time to enable as many opportunities as possible in a small school. Teachers sponsor clubs, serve as coaches and volunteer to help each other with special events.
- Student academic performance and the graduation rate are high.
- Student participation in the arts, athletics, JROTC, agriculture programs, auto mechanics and future teachers programs is excellent. Our JROTC volunteer unit has earned recognition as “Honor Unit of Distinction” by the U.S. Army for two of the past three years.

Our honors & awards

- Largest submission to the Southern Sampler Literary Magazine of any school in the district
- 2005 Academic Challenge first runner-up
- State Championship Cheerleaders in a 1A – 4A competition
- Band Awards 2005 – 2006
 - Class A first place Southern States Marching Band Contest-Overall Rating Superior
 - Class A first place Olde English Festival of Bands – Rock Hill
 - Four students selected to All-Region Honor Band
- Nine Palmetto Fellows scholarship recipients in 2005 – 2006
- JROTC Honor Unit with Distinction
- FFA Awards from the state and national conventions